



Pentagon has no more money for Ukraine as it hosts a meeting of 50 allies on support for Kyiv



Airmen with the 436th Aerial Port Squadron use a forklift to move 155 mm shells ultimately bound for Ukraine, April 29, 2022, at Dover Air Force Base, Del.

Associated Press



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Pentagon has no more money for Ukraine as it hosts a meeting of 50 allies on support for Kyiv

By TARA COPP and LOLITA C. BALDOR

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States is out of money for Ukraine, unable to send the ammunition and missiles that the government in Kyiv needs to fend off Russia's invasion.

With the aid caught up in domestic politics, the Biden administration on Tuesday came empty-handed for the first time as host of the monthly meeting of about 50 nations that coordinate support for Ukraine. The group was established by Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin in April 2022.

While waiting for Congress to approve more money



In this Department of Defense video, Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin provides opening remarks at the Ukraine Defense Contact Group, Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2024 from his home in Great Falls, Va. Associated Press

for Ukraine's fight, Washington will look to allies to keep bridging the gap.

"I urge this group to dig deep to provide Ukraine

with more lifesaving ground-based air defense systems and interceptors," Austin said in opening remarks broadcast from his

home, where he is recuperating after prostate cancer surgery.

The opening statement by video was the first public appearance from Austin, 70, who appeared slightly gaunt. He was hospitalized for two weeks after complications from the surgery.

After the meeting, Celeste Wallander, assistant defense secretary for international affairs, told reporters that Ukraine's ministry of defense is getting reports from its front lines that "units are not do not have the stocks and the stores of ammunition that they require."

Wallander added, "That is one of the reasons we have been focusing on the need to answer Congress' questions, so that they are able to move forward on a decision to pass" legislation with the aid.

While Ukraine waits to see what Congress will do, European allies are moving ahead with new measures to support Ukraine.

In Brussels, NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg

announced a \$1.2 billion joint contract to buy more than 222,000 rounds of 155 mm ammunition. The rounds are some of the most heavily used munitions in the war, and the contract will be used to backfill allies that have pushed their own reserves to Kyiv.

While the conflict between Israel and Hamas has dominated headlines since October, Russia's onslaught against Ukraine has continued.

Russia on Tuesday launched a barrage of more than 40 ballistic, cruise, anti-aircraft and guided missiles into Ukraine's two biggest cities, damaging apartment buildings and killing at least five people. The assault came a day after Moscow shunned any deal backed by Kyiv and its Western allies to end the almost two-year war.

Ukraine's air defenses were able to intercept at least 21 of the missiles. But the attacks injured at least 20 people in four districts of Kyiv, the capital. □

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To our reader and clients;

In connection with the holiday, Betico Croes Day, Aruba Today will not be published on Thursday, January 25th, 2024. We will resume our publication on Friday, January 26th, 2024.



Gilberto Francois (Betico) Croes
January 25th, 1938 – November 26th, 1986

Tribes, environmental groups ask U.S. court to block \$10B energy transmission project in Arizona

By **SUSAN MONTOYA BRYAN** and **KEN RITTER**

Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP)

— A federal judge is being asked to issue a stop-work order on a \$10 billion transmission line being built through a remote southeastern Arizona valley to carry wind-generated electricity to customers as far away as California.

A 32-page lawsuit filed on Jan. 17 in U.S. District Court in Tucson, Arizona, accuses the U.S. Interior Department and Bureau of Land Management of refusing for nearly 15 years to recognize “overwhelming evidence of the cultural significance” of the remote San Pedro Valley to Native American tribes including the Tohono O’odham, Hopi, Zuni and San Carlos Apache Tribe.

The suit was filed shortly after Pattern Energy received approval to transmit electricity generated by its SunZia wind farm in central New Mexico through the San Pedro Valley east of Tucson and north of Interstate 10.

The lawsuit calls the valley “one of the most intact, prehistoric and historical ... landscapes in southern Arizona,” and asks the court to issue restraining orders or permanent injunctions to halt construction.

“The San Pedro Valley will be irreparably harmed if construction proceeds,” it says.

Government representatives declined to comment Tuesday on the pending litigation. They are expected to respond in court. The project has been touted as the biggest U.S. electricity infrastructure undertaking since the Hoover Dam.

Pattern Energy officials said Tuesday that the time has passed to reconsider the route, which was approved in 2015 following a review process.

“It is unfortunate and regrettable that after a lengthy consultation process, where certain parties did not participate repeatedly since 2009, this is the path chosen at this



This aerial photo taken on Nov. 13, 2023, by Archaeology Southwest with a volunteer pilot and Lighthawk, a nonprofit organization, shows new access roads and tower pad sites west of the San Pedro River, near Redrock Canyon, in Arizona.

Associated Press

late stage,” Pattern Energy spokesperson Matt Dallas said in an email.

Plaintiffs in the lawsuit are the Tohono O’odham Nation, the San Carlos Apache Tribe and the nonprofit organizations Center for Biological Diversity and Archaeology Southwest.

“The case for protecting this landscape is clear,” Archaeology Southwest said in a statement that calls the San Pedro Arizona’s last free-flowing river and the valley the embodiment of a “unique and timely story of social and ecological sustainability across more than 12,000 years of cultural and environmental change.”

The valley represents a 50-mile (80-kilometer) stretch of the planned 550-mile (885-kilometer) conduit expected to carry electricity from new wind farms in central New Mexico to existing transmission lines in Arizona to serve populated areas as far away as California. The project has been called an important part of President Joe Biden’s goal for a carbon pollution-free power sector by 2035.

Work started in September in New Mexico after negotiations that spanned years and resulted in the approval from the Bureau of Land Management, the federal agency with authority over vast parts of the U.S. West.

The route in New Mexico was modified after the U.S. Defense Department raised concerns about the effects of high-voltage lines on radar systems and military training operations.

Work halted briefly in November amid pleas by tribes to review environmental approvals for the San Pedro Valley, and resumed weeks later in what Tohono O’odham Chairman Verlon M. Jose characterized as “a punch to the gut.”

SunZia expects the transmission line to begin commercial service in 2026, carrying more than 3,500 megawatts of wind power to 3 million people. Project officials say they conduct-

ed surveys and worked with tribes over the years to identify cultural resources in the area.

A photo included in the court filing shows an aerial view in November of ridgetop access roads and tower sites being built west of the San Pedro River near Redrock Canyon. Tribal officials and environmentalists say the region is otherwise relatively untouched.

The transmission line also is being challenged before the Arizona Court of Appeals. The court is being asked to consider whether state regulatory officials there properly considered the benefits and consequences of the project. □



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A pastor and a small Ohio city tussle over the legality of his 24/7 homeless ministry

By PATRICK ORSAGOS and MARK SCOLFORO

Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) —

A Christian church in Ohio filed a federal lawsuit this week after its pastor was charged with violating city ordinances when he opened up the sanctuary around the clock for homeless people and others to find shelter.

Police this month filed 18 criminal charges against Dad's Place church Pastor Chris Avell over allegations the rented church building — located next to a separate homeless shelter along Main Street in Bryan, a city of about 8,600 in northwestern Ohio — was violating the zoning ordinance, lacked proper kitchen and laundry facilities, and had unsafe exits and inadequate ventilation.

An attorney for Avell and the church, Jeremy Dys, said he thinks city leaders don't want the ministry in the middle of town, describing it as a "not in my backyard" issue and accusing officials of inventing problems.

"Nothing satisfies the city," Dys said Monday, hours after the lawsuit was filed. "And worse — they go on a smear campaign of innuendo and half-truths."

During an initial meeting with the federal judge and lawyers for Bryan on Tuesday morning, both sides agreed to maintain the status quo, Dys said. As a result, he said, the church will remain open to those who seek its religious services until at least March 4, when the judge will consider its request for an injunction against the city.

Avell, who pleaded not guilty in municipal court



This image taken from video provided by WTVG shows Pastor of Dad's Place Chris Avell, right, sitting inside Bryan Municipal Court on Thursday, Jan. 11, 2024, in Bryan, Ohio.

Associated Press

Jan. 11, said his church wants to welcome anyone, regardless of the time of day.

"I truly believe that everyone who walks through the door of Dad's Place walks out a better citizen," Avell said in an interview Tuesday, adding that closing down the around-the-clock ministry "would lose what is actually a beacon of light downtown."

The defendants are the city, Bryan Mayor Carrie Schlade and other Bryan officials.

"We absolutely deny any allegation that the city has treated any religious institution inappropriately," said Bryan city attorney Marc Fishel, noting that Schlade supported the church opening in the building four years ago. "The city has been and continues to be interested in any business, any church, any entity complying with local and

state law."

The church's lawsuit said its leaders decided in March to remain open at all hours as a temporary, emergency shelter "for people to go who have nowhere else to go and no one to care for them." Eight people stay there on a typical night, they say, and a few more when weather is bad.

"It was city police officers who would bring people by," Avell said. "The local hospital would call and bring people by. Other homeless shelters would call and bring people by." The church's policy has been to let anyone stay overnight and doesn't ask them to leave "unless there is a biblically valid reason for doing so or if someone at the property poses a danger to himself or others," according to the complaint. Held from 11 p.m. to 8 a.m., the church's "Rest and Refresh in the Lord"

ministry includes Johnny Cash's reading of the Bible piped in under dim lights, and anyone is allowed to come or go.

Two volunteers stay there and keep an eye on things, Avell said: "One is kind of a peacemaker and one is kind of a security guard." The city said in a news release that police calls to investigate inappropriate activity at the church began to increase in May, giving as examples criminal mischief, trespassing, theft and disturbing the peace.

Bryan's planning and zoning administrator gave the church 10 days to stop housing people, saying it was in a zone that does not permit residential use on the first floor. After an inspection about two weeks later, charges against Avell for code violations were sought by the local police in early December.

Since then, the lawsuit

claims, "the city has repeatedly attempted to harass and intimidate the church," while the church has tried to address the city's complaints by making changes that include installation of a new stove hood and a decision to shut down laundry facilities. The charges were unexpected, Avell said.

"It was humiliating. I didn't anticipate it in any way," he said.

Dys said that the church is not permitting criminal activity to take place and that the police calls there have been made to sound more serious than they actually were, or to seem related to church activity when they were not.

"The city is creating problems in order to gin up opposition to this church existing in the town square," Dys said.

The church wants a federal judge to protect what it says are violations of constitutional rights to free exercise of religion and protections against government hostility to religion.

"No history or tradition justifies the city's intrusion into the church's inner sanctum to dictate which rooms may be used for religious purposes, how the church may go about accomplishing its religious mission, or at what hours of the day religious activities are permitted," the lawsuit said.

The church wants a federal judge to issue a restraining order or an injunction to keep the city and top officials from "enforcing or applying the city's ordinances to burden the plaintiff's religious exercise." It also seeks damages and attorneys' fees. □

Canada is preparing for a second Trump presidency. Trudeau says Trump 'represents uncertainty'

By ROB GILLIES
Associated Press

TORONTO (AP) — Canada's government is preparing for the possibility that Donald Trump could reach the White House again and the "uncertainty" that would bring, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said Tuesday.

Speaking at a Cabinet retreat, Trudeau said that Trump "represents uncertainty. We don't know exactly what he is going to do." He said that his government was able to manage Trump previously by showing that Canada and the U.S. can create economic growth on both sides of the border.

Trump is eyeing a win in New Hampshire's Republican primary on Tuesday, which would be his second straight victory in his quest for the 2024 GOP nomination after a commanding triumph in Iowa.

Trudeau's Cabinet has been discussing the Nov. 7 presidential election at its retreat in Montreal.

"We made it through the challenges represented by the Trump administration seven years ago, for four years, where we put forward the fact that Canada and the U.S. do best when we do it together," Trudeau said.

Canada's ambassador to the U.S., Kirsten Hillman, and a panel of experts were briefing the Cabinet to prepare a strategy. Trudeau said that his industry and trade ministers will lead the "Team Canada approach" with the business community.

Trump as president called Trudeau "weak" and "dishonest" and attacked Canada's vital trade. He threatened tariffs on cars and imposed them on steel. The unprecedented tone against one of Washington's closest allies left a bitter taste, and most Canadians were relieved that Trump was defeated in 2020.

"Whether it was his attacks on farmers across Canada, whether it was his attacks on steel and aluminum workers, or whether it was



Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau speaks to the media during the federal Cabinet retreat, Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2024, in Montreal.

Associated Press

his determination to tear up the free trade agreement with Mexico and Canada, we were able to stand strong and renegoti-

ate NAFTA," Trudeau said. "That was difficult." Canada is one of the most trade-dependent countries in the world, and Trump's

move to rip up the North American Free Trade Agreement and call for the imposition of a 25% tariff on the auto sector posed an existential threat. More than 75% of Canada's exports go to the U.S.

The two countries, along with Mexico, eventually reached a revised agreement.

"What works with all American presidents is to demonstrate what is good for Canada is also good for the United States and vice versa," Trudeau said.

Trade between the U.S. and Canada totaled an estimated 1.2 trillion Canadian dollars (\$890 billion) in 2022. Each day, about 400,000 people cross the world's longest international bor-

der, and about 800,000 Canadians live in the U.S.

There is close cooperation on defense, border security and law enforcement, and a vast overlap in culture, traditions and pastimes.

"Our integrated supply chains support millions of jobs," François-Philippe Champagne, Canada's Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry, told reporters. "If there was one thing that President Trump understood, it's jobs."

Daniel Béland, a political science professor at McGill University in Montreal, said Trump's mercurial style and unpredictable statements certainly would give Canadian officials headaches again. □



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Racially diverse Puerto Rico debates bill that aims to ban hair discrimination

By DÁNICA COTO

Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)

— Legislators in racially diverse Puerto Rico have opened a public debate on a bill to explicitly prohibit discrimination against hairstyles such as cornrows and Afros, sparking a heated debate.

Local government officials argue the legislation is unnecessary because federal and local laws already ban such discrimination. But Puerto Rican activists said at a hearing Tuesday that the island's Afro-Caribbean community still faces discrimination and needs explicit protection when it comes to public services, work, education and housing.

"I'm 23 years old, and I'm tired of this problem," said Julia Llanos Bultrón, a teacher who wears cornrows. "I'm very disappointed with a system that pushes us to change the hair with which we're born."

Llanos said that a school in the northeast town of Fajardo offered her a job last year on condition that she cut her hair because they didn't allow locks. She declined.

Similar incidents were recounted by others who spoke at a crowded public hearing held at San Juan's seaside Capitol building, noting that the hairstyles in question are culturally important and carry historical significance.

More than 1.6 million people



The Capitol of Puerto Rico stands in San Juan, Puerto Rico, July 29, 2015.

Associated Press

in the U.S. territory of 3.2 million identify as being of two or more races, while nearly 230,000 identify solely as Black, according to

the U.S. Census.

Lorraine León Ramírez, mother of two sons who have Afros, said her youngest was banned from attending two different schools until he cut his hair. "It was one of the worst experiences we've had as a family," she said.

"The big question is, is it fair that our children have to grow up with regulations that undermine their identity? The answer is no," she said. "It's time to break these stigmas."

A community in Texas has been grappling with a similar issue even after the state passed a law that went into effect in September to prohibit race-based hair discrimination.

The family of a Black high school student in Belvieu, Texas, is arguing that his suspension since August has been a violation of the new law. The school says that the length of Darryl George's hair, falling below his eyebrows and earlobes, violates the school's dress code.

In Puerto Rico, government officials have noted that the island's laws and constitution, along with Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, protect from discrimination. But a precedent was set in 2016 when a U.S. Court of Appeals dismissed a discrimination lawsuit after finding that an employer's no-dreadlock policy in Alabama did not violate Title VII.

During Tuesday's hearing, the co-author of the bill,

Puerto Rico Sen. Ana Irma Rivera Lassén, said she didn't understand the government's position. "What is the problem with adding explicit protection?" she said.

Backing her was Puerto Rican university student Alanis Ruiz Guevara, who said she has been pushing for creation of the bill because specific hairstyles including braids, locks and Bantu knots are not covered by certain laws.

Others pushing for the bill is renowned Puerto Rican author Mayra Santos-Febres.

"All of this legal work is so important because it creates a protocol that is needed now," she said. "We need tools to defend ourselves from systemic racism."

Debate over the bill is expected to continue in upcoming weeks.

In the U.S. mainland, Texas and at least 23 other states have implemented a version of the CROWN Act, which stands for "Create a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair." It bans hairstyle discrimination within employment, housing, education and public accommodation places. The U.S. House of Representatives approved a federal version of it in 2022, but it failed in the Senate.

Some government officials in the Caribbean also have been pushing to relax hair codes at schools, workplaces and government offices. □





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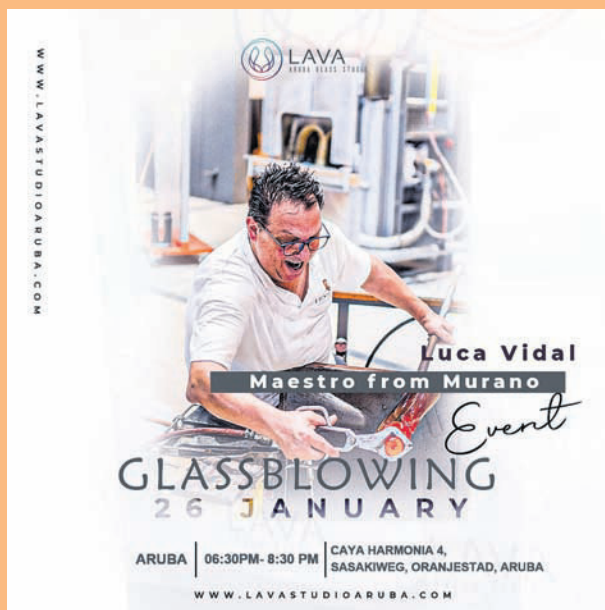
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Papiamento words and phrases you may want to know!

(Oranjestad)—Aruba is a potting melt of different nationalities, cultures and languages. Primarily for this reason, the average Aruban can understand and speak Dutch, English and Spanish relatively well. However, as much as we pride ourselves in being able to communicate with almost everyone, we cherish our native tongue Papiamento above all else. Want to learn some common words in our language? Here are a few basic words and phrases that can get you a hat tip from an Aruban.

When you arrive at the airport in Aruba, one of the first words in Papiamento you may encounter is "Bon bini." Bon bini in Papiamento means welcome, and is probably the most famous Papiamento word for tourists.



Hi! Bye!

To be fair, there is no unique way to say "hello" in Papiamento. At least, not officially. We often just use the English "hello" or "hey", or Dutch "hallo" to greet someone. We do however, always follow it up with "con bay?" or "con ta?" Con bay is a shortened version of "con ta bay?", which essentially means "how are you?"

The word "con" in Papiamento means "how?" and is pronounced with a rounder "o" sounds, like in the English word "cone". "Ta bay" refers to how you

are doing.

When we say goodbye, we use the word "ayo" (not like the Ayo Rock Formation, but also...kinda?). We may also use "te oro", which means "see you later".

Greetings during the day Most, if not all, languages have different ways to greet according to the time of day, and Papiamento is no different. Since Papiamento is heavily influenced from Portuguese and Spanish, some of these phrases may look very familiar.

1. Bon dia is used in

the morning, up to about noon. Bon dia essentially means good morning. The word "bon" means "good", and while "dia" does not directly mean "morning" in English, it is used often to refer to the morning time.

2. Bon tardi. In the afternoon to early evening hours, we use "bon tardi" to greet people, which means "good afternoon". "Tardi" actually comes from the word "atardi", which directly translates to "afternoon". However, the shortened "tardi" is used to keep the rhythm on the phrase. And the same could be said for our last greeting of the day.

3. Bon nochi. You guessed it, "bon nochi" means "good night". Just like "tardi", "nochi" is actually the shortened version of the word "anochi".

Yes...no...maybe?

The affirmative and negative expression is very sim-

ple in Papiamento. Just like Spanish, our yeses are "si" and our no's are "no". Pretty easy right? If you want to gain some extra points from younger locals, you can also say "se", which is a more casual affirmative used mostly by the younger generation. However, do note: some older generations may find this improper and not respectful, so keep that in mind.

Thanks man...

Lastly, a word that we can also say more often is "danki", which means literally "thank you". "Danki" is derived from the Dutch word "bedankt". Though we don't really have a translation for "I appreciate it" in English, we do use "masha danki" to convey the message. "Masha" means "a lot" or "very", so "masha danki" means "thank you very much".

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chicken and ducks, and even a land turtle!

It was a National Geographic moment when on cue Mr. Ostrich flapped his

wings excitedly and poked around the ground with his bill, triggering Mrs. Ostrich who ran around in circles, flapped her wings and also poked around, before col-

lapsing on the ground in a heap of feathers, allowing him to mount her, shaking, winding and spiraling his head in all direction!

Mr. Ostrich concluded his unexpected performance with a loud honking, his eyes rolling, then got up in a huff to nonchalantly strut away, leaving his wife and the scrutiny of our cameras.

It was a surprise reality TV moment, and not usually included in the regular pro-

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Last but not least: check out our website, Instagram and Facebook page! Thank you for supporting our free newspaper, we strive to make you a happy reader every day again. For today we received a lovely message from Cardinale family from Boston Mass., USA.

They wrote to us saying: "Hi, my name is Craig Cardinale in this photo there is my wife, Michelle, and my daughter Ava. My other two children who are not pictured did not make the trip this time they have all been coming for the last 25 years I personally have been coming to Aruba for 40 years since I was a child ,I got my wife and hooked about 27 years ago so she's been coming 27 years, the memories that Ive shared with my wife and my children are some of the fondest memories growing up in

Aruba and memories that we all have continued with the next generation of Cardinale's. This picture is us enjoying a great dinner at Azzuro.

Aruba is definitely our 2nd home and we definitely consider the Aruban people our family. See you in May...love The Cardinale Family."

Thank you for sending us this wonderful message sharing what Aruba means to you with us and our readers!



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We celebrate our National Hero Betico Croes

ORANJESTAD – The island of Aruba has a special day coming up Tomorrow, January 25th. The island will explode with lots of festivities that honor the late pro-autonomy political leader Gilberto Francois (Betico) Croes. He helped the island attain the Status Aparte – the status of autonomous country within the kingdom of the Netherlands, separate from the other islands of the Antilles.

Aruba was allowed to function as a commonwealth within the Dutch Kingdom and Betico is honored for this outcome since 1989 by celebrating the Dia di Betico. The official holiday normally features perfor-

mances, sporting events and games throughout the island.

Croes himself was not able to enjoy the results of his ongoing struggle; he was involved in an accident on December 31, 1985, and went into a coma. He passed away on November 26, 1986. For the Aruban people, his words will never be forgotten. He told his people: "Si mi cay na caminda, gara e bandera y sigui cu e lucha" which means "If I fall along the way, grab the flag and continue the struggle."

Active man

Betico was born on January 25, 1938. Croes had four children: two sons—Glenbert Croes and Gilberto Junior Croes and two daughters—Glendeline Croes and Guisette Croes. Both of Croes' sons served as Ministers and Glenbert is currently in office as Minister of Labor. Betico was also the uncle of Aruba's current Prime Minister, Mrs. Evelyn Wever-Croes.

The father of the Aruban nation or the Liberator (Lib-



ertador) as he is called often, was an active man in Caribbean organizations while he studied in the Netherlands. Betico was a social man, participated in sports and the social and cultural community. He worked as a teacher and instituted the official seal, flag and hymn for the island. During the Round table Conference of 1981, he was responsible for formally setting the date for Aruba's independency. Betico also became leader of the political party Movimiento Electoral di Pueblo (MEP), now the main party that forms the current government that was elected in September 2021. There were two stages in which the Independence was formed: the first one was set for 1986, the second was set for ten years later and enhanced the independence from the Netherlands. However, it never came to a total independence of Aruba in 1996; it was dropped in 1990. The Status Aparte within the Kingdom of the Netherlands was to be a permanent one.





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The district of Savaneta

A quick history guide to the island's first capital

(Oranjestad)—Before Oranjestad became the island nation's capital, Aruba's first capital was the district of Savaneta. Here is where the cultural identity of Aruba was born, and from where the rest of the island developed into what it is today.

Savaneta is said to have been the first place where the Caquetio inhabitants first stepped foot on the island. Though there isn't hard evidence to back this up, but considering the legend of the Cacique Arua, it is believed that there were already movements on Aruba—and Savaneta—around 88 AD.

The Caquetios probably made their way to the island either from Venezuela, Colombia or other Caribbean islands in the region, but with good weather it was relatively easy for them to travel back and forth in their canoes. So, since the Caquetios discovered the island, Aruba found her first form of civilization.

It wasn't until 1499 when Aruba met another group of people who set foot on the island: the Spanish explorer Alonso de Ojeda. De



Ojeda first took notice of Aruba off the coast of Venezuela, during his exploration of the Latin American country. This was on August 9th, 1499. However, de Ojeda didn't actually sail to the island till 4 days later, on August 23rd, 1499. This was the beginning of the Spanish era on Aruba (1499-1636).

Alonso usually didn't stop at every island or land he saw, especially not in the Caribbean. He would often take notice of land from afar and continue sailing. However, Aruba was an exception. He had heard that there were "quebracho" trees on the island, which were commonly used to produce dye or paint. But since these trees could not be found in Savaneta, he continued to search in the area of what is now known as Santa Cruz. The best way to transport the tree barks was via a route passing through Savaneta, and so the first road between Savaneta and Santa Cruz was made.

The Dutch colonial era (1636-1805) During the 80-year war between The Netherlands and Spain, Dutch explorers and merchants began to travel to the ABC is-

lands. Once they landed in Aruba, they deported the small Arawakan and Spanish community that was living on the island. This was the beginning of colonization of the ABC islands by the Dutch empire. Around the same, the West Indian Company (WIC) was born. Bonaire and Curacao were mostly used for plantations, where the Dutch had transported slaves from Africa. Aruba, on the other hand, was mostly used to raise cattle and to house the haring factory. The Dutch had often forced the indigenous community to work for them.

In 1636, when the Netherlands won the war against Spain, the country surrendered the islands to the Dutch.

The Dutch administration appointed the island's first commander, an Irish man named N. Williams. Because the Dutch were interested in other Caribbean islands and countries in South America, they imported Dutch merchants and business men, all of whom resided in Savaneta. This way, Savaneta officially became the island's first capital.

However, at the end of the 18th century, the com-

mander at the time, J.R. Lauffer, moved his office to what is now "Horse Bay" in Oranjestad. Because the highest office on the island moved away from Savaneta, the capital lost its title to what was called then Playa.

How Savaneta got its name The name Savaneta probably has a Spanish origin. It was said that when the Spanish climbed a hill called Yara, they saw that the area was mostly open and had no big trees. In Spanish, such a land area is called a "sabana".

Because of its land surface, Savaneta was a great place to construct cattle farms. From here, the farm-

er culture on Aruba was born. Before the Aruban Gold Rush and the construction of the Refinery in San Nicolas, most residents were farmers, and Savaneta had many inhabitants that farmed fruits and vegetables. They also continued the tradition of raising cattle, like goat, sheep, pigs and horses. Savaneta was one of the first places on the island to have a general farming culture. From this culture, many other traditions were born, like the Dera Gay Holiday that we celebrate every year on June 24th.

Source: Historia di Savaneta (History of Savaneta) by Adolf "Dufi" Kock.





Article by Etnia Nativa

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Livelihood before tourism (Part I)

Episode CCXLI - 241

Each week, Etnia Nativa presents a new episode about cultural heritage, native knowledge, and the responsibility to acknowledge heritage, traditions, and the limited space our tribe had living on an island. It's sharing today a brief introduction to the history of how Aruba's livelihood was before oil and tourism. Natives faced a constant existential adaptation since the Spanish era until the gold rush.

Aruba's gainful economic life has known periods of dire extremes. There have been occasions of near famine as a result of net-to-no means of support since a great part of what the island could produce during good or bad times had to be shipped to Curacao. Periods of quick, short-lived prosperity and a stable economy based primarily on oil refining followed.

Under the Spanish regime during Aruba's recorded beginning, tribal people busied themselves with many trades and crafts. Some of these endeavors had devastating results on the landscape, depleting the island almost completely of a particular tree for the export of Campeche wood, or its variety, Brasil wood. The wood, which grew in abundance on Aruba centuries ago, yielded a red dye used in the textile industry. Over a century of Spanish rule transformed Aruba into a large rancho. Goats, sheep, burros, cattle, and pigs were brought to the island, bred, and allowed to roam freely over the countryside. The animals' freedom undoubtedly came during the periods when the island went uninhabited by Europeans. The native Caquetios very often left Aruba for the mainland, today Venezuelan, since it was all part of their ancestral territory and tribal political land. It is reported that when the Dutch took over Curacao, the news ran fast, and many natives went into hiding or left Aruba, leaving the island almost uninhabited. After the Dutch promised to respect their land, boats, and animals, the Indians began to return to their villages in Aruba under Dutch rule.

During the Dutch era, means were



proposed to develop an economic structure in the ABC islands. Aruba was to be the horse breeding farm; Curacao was the plantation island; and Bonaire was dedicated to the salt industry. The natives bred horses on the island, which, from the bay at Oranjestad, hence the name Paardenbaai (Horses 'Bay), were sent to the mainland to be used for military purposes, mainly against the Spanish.

Until the mid-18th century, when a few privileged persons were allowed to settle in Aruba for trading purposes, the island's economic life was little more than the trading of sheep, goats, flour, fruits, and water with marauding French, Spanish, English, and pirate ships. Aruba's history is void of slave trading. While Curacao grew to be a leading slave market in this trade, Aruba never became a point of exchange. It wasn't until the Emancipation of 1863 that Africans came to Aruba, and then to seek employment.

The first mention of gold in Aruba occurred in 1725, when rumors of hidden wealth reached the West

Indies Company's home office in Holland. Quickly dispatched was Paulus Printz, a European miner. Although he never produced any gold, he reported the presence of metallic ores. Just about a century later, gold was found in Aruba. Naturally, legend covers the incident (see Episode 173). Accordingly, a 12-year-old youth tending his father's sheep was stuck by a cactus needle while crossing a valley called Lagabai, near Rooi Fluit, a dry river bed. The lad bent down to remove the piercing barb, and in so doing, spied a shining object. It turned out to be gold—yes, pure Aruban gold.

It was alluvial gold, and nothing much was done about its recovery other than the island's residents panning the streams. Between 1832 and 1846, some gold was extracted from deep quarries. In 1854, the first exclusive rights to exploit the minerals of Aruba were granted. Nothing much was done, however, which was pretty much the case until Jan van der Biest, an Aruban acting as superintendent of the Bushiribana works of the Aruba Island Gold Mining Co., Ltd. of

London, extracted 2075 ounces of gold. The project died in 1882 when costs became prohibitive. Another company started in 1897 and failed shortly thereafter. It wasn't until the Aruba Goud Maatschappij got under way in 1908 that profitable mining was conducted. It continued until World War I, when it cut off its supply of necessary materials. Gold was never mined successfully in Aruba again. Attempts were made to recover the previous material as late as 1947, but to no avail.

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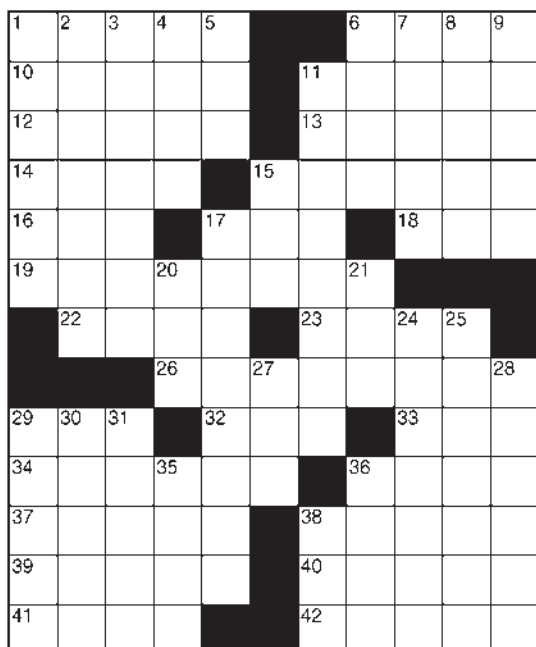
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By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 40 Church feature
 - 41 Minus
 - 42 Castle surrounders
 - 1 Traction aid
 - 6 Hip-hop songs
 - 10 Sponsorship
 - 11 Syrup choice
 - 12 Molten rock
 - 13 Holiday visitor
 - 14 Blunders
 - 15 Shrewd
 - 16 One, for Juan
 - 17 What's more
 - 18 Lawn material
 - 19 EPA target
 - 22 Sharp's counterpart
 - 23 First person
 - 26 Roper, for one
 - 29 Upper limit
 - 32 Diamond club
 - 33 Floral garland
 - 34 Overseas
 - 36 Rocky
 - 37 Diner seating choice
 - 38 Word of German gratitude
 - 39 Ice cream shop extra
- DOWN**
- 1 Arose
 - 2 Find out about
 - 3 Chinese dinner extra
 - 4 Goals
 - 5 Screening org.
 - 6 Crazy talk
 - 7 Top grade
 - 8 "Republic" writer
 - 9 Did some tailoring
 - 11 Flubbed at the poker table
 - 15 Small worker
 - 17 German expressway
 - 20 Pet perch
 - 21 Hwys.
 - 24 Hawks' home
 - 25 Mongoose cousin
 - 27 Young fellow
 - 28 Pony Express workers
 - 29 Group of plotters
 - 30 Dwelling
 - 31 Eggs on
 - 35 Singer
 - 36 Head Redding
 - 38 Block



Yesterday's answer



1-24

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

1-24 **CRYPTOQUOTE**

AZ IHQ'UB PAKBV PAZXJ HU
TEBJJAVPJ AV IHQU EAZB, AX'J
QD XH IHQ XH NBED XNB PQI
YHSAVP QD TBN AVR IHQ.

— WASSI JSAXJ

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: AT A DINNER PARTY
ONE SHOULD EAT WISELY BUT NOT TOO
WELL, AND TALK WELL BUT NOT TOO WISELY.
— W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM

Millennial Money: Tackle overdue taxes this year

By DALIA RAMIREZ of Nerd-Wallet

For some, the new tax season might serve as a stressful reminder of past taxes that have yet to be filed and paid. Taxpayers owed over \$120 billion in back taxes, penalties and interest in 2022, according to the IRS. And there soon may be more concrete reminders coming: The IRS resumed sending automated collection notices for unpaid taxes in 2024 after pausing them "due to the unprecedented effects of the COVID-19 pandemic" in February 2022. If you're one of the many taxpayers who owe tax debt this season, addressing the issue sooner rather than later can save you from penalties, interest and other more serious consequences. And you can get started even if you can't afford to pay in full. Here's what you can do to get back on track.

IF YOU GET A NOTICE, READ IT

The longer you delay reading and responding to unpaid tax notices, the more serious your tax situation could become. "People come into our office, and

they have all these unopened letters," says Kenneth Portera, an enrolled agent and owner of Kenneth Portera and Associates in New Jersey who works with clients who owe back taxes. □

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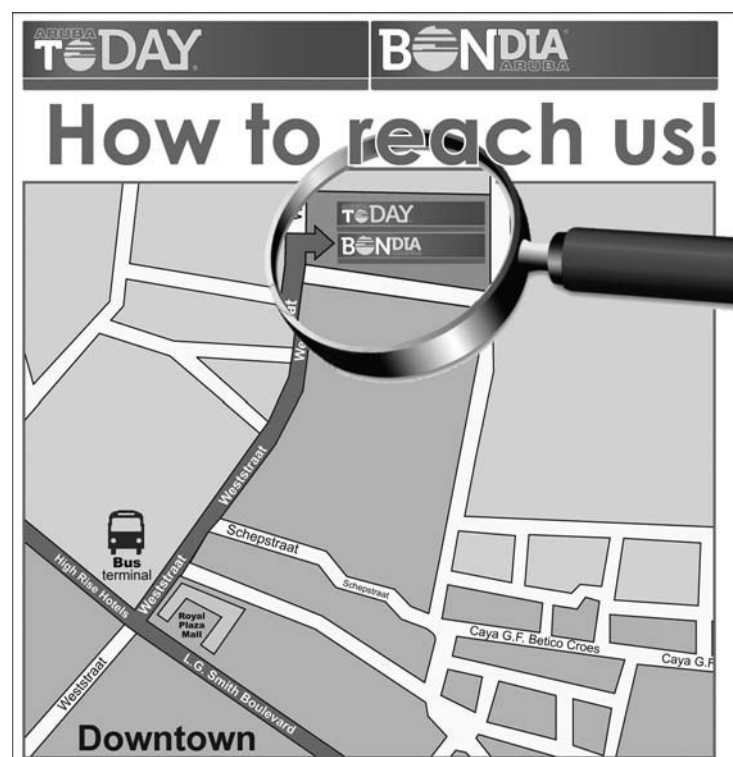
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Editors

Pilar Flores
Richard Brooks
Angenette Figuereo

Sales

Mark Gomes
Sulaika Croes

Classifieds

classified@cspnv.com

Distribution and Collection

accounting@bondia.com

Social / Website

Juan Luis Pinto

Weststraat 22
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Japan is rich, but many of its children are poor; a film documents the plight of single mothers

By YURI KAGEYAMA
Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — The women work hard, sleeping only a few hours a night, as they juggle the demands of caring for their children and doing housework — all while suffering from poverty.

The award-winning independent documentary film "The Ones Left Behind," released last year, tells the story of such single mothers in Japan, weaving together interviews with the women and experts, and showing the other side of a culture whose ideal is for women to get married and become stay-at-home housewives and mothers.

"This is a topic that no one wants to really touch. In Japan, it's very taboo," Australian filmmaker Rionne McAvoy said Tuesday. "I think it's a very apt title because I feel that single mothers and their children have really been left behind in society." One woman in the film says she



This photo provided by Japan Media Services shows a scene from *The Ones Left Behind: The Plight of Single Mothers in Japan*, directed by Rionne McAvoy.

works from 8:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m., while earning less than 200,000 yen (\$1,350) a month.

Tomiko Nakayama, another woman in the film, says: "I have to do everything on my own."

Despite being one of the world's richest nations, Japan has one of the high-

est rates of child poverty among OECD countries, with one in every seven children living in poverty. About half of single-parent households live below the poverty line.

Japanese society also tends to favor full-time male workers, and women often receive lower wages

and fewer benefits, even when they are working full-time and overtime.

Another woman in the film is near tears as she describes how her child stopped asking her about take-your-parent-to-school days. She knew her mom was too busy and couldn't attend. McAvoy's wife, Ayuri, who

produced the film, was formerly a single mother. But both deny that's why Rionne McAvoy made the film. Initially, she wasn't interested in getting involved in his filmmaking.

What makes the story so "Japanese," according to Rionne McAvoy, is how the country's conformist culture makes many women accept their hardships, too ashamed to ask for help, "keeping their public face and private face separate," he told The Associated Press.

"The Ones Left Behind" was the Best Documentary Winner at the Miyakojima Charity International Film Festival last year and an official selection at the Yokohama International Film Festival.

Despite repeated promises by the Japanese government to provide monetary assistance to people with children, action has been slow, said Akihiko Kato, a professor at Meiji University who appears in the film. □

Associated Press

Dwayne 'The Rock' Johnson gets rights to one of the most famous nicknames in entertainment, his own

By MICHELLE CHAPMAN
AP Business Writer

It is a name that has become almost synonymous with professional wrestling but its bearer, Dwayne Johnson, has never legally owned "The Rock."

That will change under a new agreement with the WWE under which Johnson will also join the board of TKO Group, the sports and entertainment company that houses WWE and UFC. "The Rock" is a name derived from Johnson's father, WWE Hall of Famer Rocky Johnson, who was the first Black champion in WWE history (alongside partner Tony Atlas), according to the WWE.

Johnson, in an interview on CNBC, would not discuss the financial value of the deal with WWE, but

said that the name "The Rock" means a lot to him personally. "I owe that name everything," Johnson said. "Without that name there'd be no wrestling career. There'd be no Hol-

lywood career." Johnson, a movie and wrestling star, has a business portfolio that includes his production company Seven Bucks Productions, tequila brand Teremana Tequila, energy

drink company ZOA Energy, Project Rock apparel brand and the United Football League.

Johnson said on CNBC that this will be his first time serving on the board of a publicly traded company.

"I'm very motivated to help continue to globally expand our TKO, WWE, and UFC businesses as the worldwide leaders in sports and entertainment while proudly representing so many phenomenal athletes and performers who show up every day putting in the hard work with their own two hands to make their dreams come true and deliver for our audiences," Johnson said in a prepared statement. "I've been there, I'm still there and this is for them."

TKO Group Holdings Inc.

says Johnson's board appointment, effective Tuesday, reflects its "commitment to delivering long-term value and strong performance for shareholders through strategic growth initiatives across both UFC and WWE." Johnson began his wrestling career with WWE in 1996. The third-generation wrestler became famous for rivalries with wrestlers including "Stone Cold" Steve Austin and Triple H and his finishing maneuver, The Rock Bottom, according to his biography on WWE's website. He has won eight WWE championships, has a New York Times best-selling autobiography, "The Rock Says," and starred in movies including "Fast X," "Black Adam," "Jungle Cruise" and "Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle." □



Actor and former WWE Superstar Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson participates in a *Wrestlemania XXVII* press conference at the Hard Rock Cafe in Times Square on Wednesday, Mar. 30, 2011 in New York.

Associated Press



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10-time champ Djokovic beats Fritz, will play Sinner in Australian Open semis

By JOHN PYE
AP Sports Writer

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)

— Nobody has ever been better at this end of the Australian Open than Novak Djokovic, the 10-time champion.

Every time he's won a quarterfinal at Melbourne Park as he did against Taylor Fritz on Tuesday, he's gone on to win the title.

The odds are usually stacked against his semifinal rival. Perhaps even more so against fourth-seeded Jannik Sinner, who won a quarterfinal over No. 5 Andrey Rublev that didn't start until 10:42 p.m. and didn't finish until 1:21 a.m. Wednesday.

Djokovic reached his record-extending 48th Grand Slam semifinal by beating Fritz 7-6 (3), 4-6, 6-2, 6-3 in 3 3/4 hours. Their match started late in the heat of the afternoon because U.S. Open champion Coco Gauff's preceding win over



Novak Djokovic of Serbia reacts after winning the first set against Taylor Fritz of the U.S. during their quarterfinal match at the Australian Open tennis championships at Melbourne Park, Melbourne, Australia, Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2024.

Associated Press

Marta Kostyuk took more than three hours.

In an on-court interview with Australian player Nick

Kyrgios, who has been sidelined by a long-term injury, Djokovic made a light-hearted joke about getting

popcorn and watching Sinner vs. Rublev on late-night TV.

Later, Djokovic said Sinner's

late finish wouldn't be a factor in Friday's semifinals. "What kind of advantage will I have? We have two days. It's not much of an advantage that I see there," he said. "Plenty of time for whoever wins that match tonight to recover."

The start of the night session was pushed back past 9 p.m. and could have gone very, very late if not for women's champion Aryna Sabalenka and Sinner both winning in straight sets.

Sinner was down 5-1 in the second-set tiebreaker before winning six straight points, starting with a stunning crosscourt forehand, to turn momentum and take the match 6-4, 7-6 (5), 6-3.

"I want to thank everyone for staying so long," Sinner said in his on-court interview. "It's always a huge pleasure to play here on this court. It doesn't really matter the time." □

Cavaliers' Tristan Thompson suspended 25 games for violating NBA's drug policy with positive tests



Milwaukee Bucks forward Bobby Portis (9) and Cleveland Cavaliers center Tristan Thompson (13) watch the ball during the second half of an NBA basketball game Wednesday, Jan. 17, 2024, in Cleveland.

Associated Press

By TOM WITHERS

AP Sports Writer

CLEVELAND (AP) — Cleveland Cavaliers center Tristan Thompson was suspended 25 games without pay by the NBA on Tuesday for violating the league's anti-drug policy. According to the league, the 32-year-old Thompson tested positive for ibutamoren, a growth hormone, and SARM LGD-4033, commonly used by body builders and weight lifters for muscle enhancement.

Thompson will begin serving his suspension Wednesday when the Cavs, who have won eight straight games, play the first of two in three days at Milwaukee.

There was no immediate comment from Thompson or the Cavs.

During the suspension, Thompson is allowed to travel and practice. The only restriction is that he must be out of the arena at least two hours prior to tipoff for any games.

Thompson is in his second stint with the Cavs, who originally drafted the Canadian with the No. 4 overall pick in the 2011 draft. The 6-foot-11 Thompson has become a beloved player in Cleveland. He was a member of the 2016 NBA championship team, which won the city's first major pro sports title since 1964.

Thompson spent his first nine seasons as a pro with the Cavs before bouncing around. He's also played with Boston, Sacramento, Indiana, Chicago and the Los Angeles Lakers. □

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Analysis: No excuse for Bucs' Bowles forgoing final timeout after Lions snapped the ball too early

By **ARNIE STAPLETON**
AP Pro Football Writer

Todd Bowles didn't want to prolong the agony by using his final timeout in an against-all-odds situation -- but that's exactly what he ended up doing by letting the final 36 seconds tick away on the scrappy Tampa Bay Buccaneers' season.

While the Lions were celebrating their 31-23 win Sunday night that sent Detroit to its first NFC championship since 1991, Bowles calmly defended his baffling decision to throw in the towel, suggesting, "They already had the field goal lined up, and there would've been about 12 seconds left on the clock to end the ball game. We weren't going to come back from that. No sense to prolong the obvious."

He doubled down Monday but his math was still wrong. "They were in field goal



Tampa Bay Buccaneers head coach Todd Bowles addresses the media after an NFL football NFC divisional playoff game against the Detroit Lions, Sunday, Jan. 21, 2024, in Detroit.

Associated Press

range," Bowles began.

No argument there, although we're not talking chip-shot.

"We'd have had 12 seconds, calculated," Bowles reasoned, "after using that timeout to come back from it."

Only if Bowles had called his third and final timeout right away, that is.

The Lions lined up in victory formation after linebacker Derrick Barnes intercepted Baker Mayfield's pass over the middle with 1:33 remaining and Jared Goff took a trio of kneel-downs with nary a Tampa Bay timeout to stop the clock. Yet, the Lions failed to run every second off the clock that they could have. On

third down, center Frank Ragnow snapped the ball when there were still 14 seconds left on the play clock. So, the game clock showed 36 seconds remaining when Goff took a knee for the third and final time and the hugs and the handshakes, the celebrations and condolences, commenced. Now, had Bowles used his last timeout, maybe the Lions decide to punt instead of attempting a long field goal. But Bowles surmised a kick through the uprights would have ensued.

"Then we'd have been down 11 points," Bowles said, "so it's kind of pointless" to use that last timeout.

Yes, a field goal would have sealed the Lions' trip to San Francisco, one step from their first Super Bowl appearance.

But isn't it worth the shot? Maybe Michael Badgley misses from 49 yards out.

Maybe it's blocked. Or botched.

Badgley had only attempted two field goals from 40-plus yards since rejoining the Lions last month, and although he made them both, he's no sure thing from long range.

In his NFL career, he's missed 11 of 48 field goal attempts from 40-to-49 yards and he's just 5-of-13 from 50 yards or longer.

Bowles wrapped up his closing argument Monday with this:

"You kind of know when the game is over," he said. "The game was over."

Thirty-six seconds sooner than it absolutely had to be, thanks to Bowles' fishy math and dubious decision to take that final timeout with him into the offseason. Detroit coach Dan Campbell knows the Lions got away some bungled end-of-game management themselves. □

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nine seasons as a pro with the Cavs before bouncing around. He's also played

with Boston, Sacramento, Indiana, Chicago and the Los Angeles Lakers.

The Cavs re-signed him as a free agent to a one-year contract before this season. He's only averaging 3.8 points and 3.9 rebounds in 12 minutes, but Thompson has also helped Cleveland navigate a spate of injuries.

Cleveland has been without starters Darius Garland (broken jaw) and forward Evan Mobley (knee surgery) since mid-December, but the Cavs have played their best ball without them, and at 26-15 have moved into the No. 4 spot in the Eastern Conference. □